

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the Title and the Abstract in response to the Examiner's objections. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 23-34 remain pending in the application.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 26, 27, 29, 30, 32 and 33 define patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims from which they depend.

DOUBLE PATENTING

The Office Action rejects claims 23-25, 28, 31 and 34 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer for U.S. Patent 6,704,083. Accordingly, claims 23-25, 28, 31 and 34 are deemed now to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing comments, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow claims 23-34, and pass the application to issue. In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843) at (703) 715-0870 to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.

Serial No. 10/724,703

SEC.368C

Amendment dated 16 August 2004

50-0238 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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